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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

FOL SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE SEPT 14, 1975 FROM GENEVA

QUOTE S E C R E T GENEVA 7034

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FOR SECRETARY, SISCO, ATHERTON FROM SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 3

TAGS: EG, IS

SUBJECT: GENEVA MILITARY WORKING GROUP -- SESSIONS 7-10

1. SUMMARY. WORKING GROUP HAS NOW COMPLETED MAIN DISCUSSION OF SOUTHERN AREA WITH THREE ISSUES LEFT HANGING -- TRANSFER OF OIL FIELDS WHICH WILL DEPEND ON TALKS HERE BETWEEN OIL EXPERTS ON BOTH SIDES, PHASING OF REDEPLOYMENT IN SOUTH WHICH WILL DEPEND PARTLY ON REQUIREMENTS OF OIL TRANSFER, AND NUMBER OF POLICE WITH LARGE GAP REMAINING. WHILE DISCUSSION HAS NOW TURNED TO NORTHERN AREA, LEFTOVER ISSUES FROM SOUTH WILL CONTINUE TO BE DEALT WITH ON THE SIDE. OVERHANGING ALL THIS, HOWEVER, IS MAJOR UNRESOLVED ISSUE LEFT IN SUSPENSE FROM UNPLEASANT FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SESSION -- TIMETABLE FOR SECRET

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OVERALL REDEPLOYMENT. SIILASVUO'S COMMENT AT END OF TENTH

SESSION SUNDAY NOON WAS THAT IF THERE IS NO MOVEMENT ON THIS ISSUE BY END OF TUESDAY SESSIONS, TIME MAY HAVE COME FOR WASHINGTON TO CONSIDER A PROD. EGYPTIANS SUNDAY SENT MEMBER OF THEIR DELEGATION TO CAIRO OVER YOM KIPPUR RECESS, SO WE MAY GET REQUEST FOR HELP FROM THAT QUARTER. END SUMMARY.

2. AT WEEK(S END, MAIN PROBLEMS IN FIRST TEN SESSIONS OF MILITARY WORKING GROUP (THROUGH SEPTEMBER 14) CAN BE TRACED TO DIFFERENCES OF APPROACH IN THREE MAIN AREAS:

A. ISRAELIS ARE SHOWING SOME FLEXIBILITY ON PHASING OF REDEPLOYMENT IN SOUTH BUT GENERALLY HOLD TO POSITION THAT THEIR FORCES WILL MAINTAIN OVERALL CONTROL IN PRESENT POSITIONS UNTIL LAST DAY OF PRESCRIBED IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD. AS GAZIT HAS ADMITTED, THIS IS AT LEAST PARTLY FOR POLITICAL REASONS -- TO PROVIDE TIME OF "POLITICAL TESTING", AS HE PUT IT. EGYPTIANS CONTINUE TO INSIST HERE, AS GAMASY DID WITH EILTS (CAIRO 9074), THAT THERE SHOULD BE STEADY SUCCESSION OF PHASED MOVEMENTS ON BOTH SIDES, NOT JUST SINGLE EGYPTIAN MOVE AT THE END. SOLUTION TO THIS IS EASY -- LET EGYPTIANS MOVE GRADUALLY INTO PRESENT UNEF ZONE, AS GAMASY SUGGESTED. BUT ISRAELIS IN NORTHERN AREA HAVE GIVEN ALMOST NOT AT ALL, AND THIS ISSUE COULD GO DOWN TO WIRE WITH EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR WASHINGTON INTERVENTION. I SEE FAHMY HAS ALSO NOTED ISRAELI POSITION WITH DISPLEASURE (CAIRO 9072, PARA. 4).

B. ISRAELIS CONTINUE TO TALK ABOUT SOUTHERN AREA AND BUFFER ZONE IN NORTH AS IF THEY WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE SOME PROPRIETARY RIGHTS, WHILE AS SECRETARY POINTED OUT TO ISRAELIS NUMEROUS TIMES DURING SHUTTLE, EGYPTIANS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO FACT THAT THIS IS EGYPTIAN SOIL. NUMBER OF POLICE IN SOUTHERN AREA HAS BEEN WITH US MOST OF WEEK WITH ISRAELIS TREATING THEM AS POTENTIAL COMMANDOS AND EGYPTIANS FEELING IT IS NONE OF ISRAEL'S BUSINESS HOW THEY STAFF THEIR POLICE FORCE. NOW AS TALK HAS TURNED TO NORTHERN AREA WE HAVE NEW ISSUE WHICH YOU WILL RECALL GAMASY INTRODUCED FOR FIRST TIME ONLY TOWARD END OF SHUTTLE -- STATUS OF 1,000 OR SO BEDOUINS NOW LIVING IN NORTHERN PART OF WHAT WILL BECOME NEW BUFFER ZONE. EGYPTIANS WANT TO PROVIDE NORMAL CIVIL ADMINISTRATION FOR THEM AS THEY WILL DO IN SOUTHERN AREA FOR THOSE WORKING

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OIL FIELDS. WHILE ISRAELIS HAVE -- AT LEAST INADVERTENTLY -- ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS IS SOVEREIGN EGYPTIAN TERRITORY AND ARE ALLOWING THESE PEOPLE TO LIVE IN AREA NOW, THEY SEE SUCH CIVILIAN POPULATION AS MAJOR SOURCE OF CONTINUING TROUBLE AND ARE INSISTING THIS REMAIN A GENUINE BUFFER WITH NO FORMAL EGYPTIAN ADMINISTRATION. EVEN SILASVUO QUIETLY AGREES THAT THESE PEOPLE WILL BE PROBLEM. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHERE THIS ISSUE WILL COME OUT, BUT IT IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF BASIC

PROBLEM AND COULD BECOME ANOTHER SUBJECT OF EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR WASHINGTON INTERVENTION BEFORE END OF WEEK.

C. ISRAELIS OCCASIONALLY TRY TO INSERT IN PROTOCOL LANGUAGE OR SUBJECTS WHICH THEY FAILED TO GET INTO AGREEMENT AND ANNEX, WHILE EGYPTIANS TAKE POSITION THOSE ISSUES HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH DURING SHUTTLE AT POLITICAL LEVEL AND ARE BEYOND COMPETENCE OF WORKING GROUP TO RE-OPEN. CURRENT EXAMPLES INCLUDE: (1) SINCE ANNEX IN PARAGRAPH ON LIMITATION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS INTRODUCES LIST OF LIMITATIONS AS "THE MAJOR LIMITATIONS," ISRAELIS HAVE PUT FORWARD HERE A LIST OF "MINOR" LIMITATIONS, INCLUDING APC'S AND SMALLER MORTARS WHICH THEY PROPOSED DURING SHUTTLE. EGYPTIANS HAVE REJECTED THIS FLATLY. WHEN GAZIT MENTIONED THIS SUBJECT IN DAILY PRIVATE BRIEFING HE GIVES ME WHILE I NORMALLY JUST LISTEN, I TOOK LIBERTY IN THIS CASE OF TELLING HIM I THOUGHT THIS ISSUE HAD BEEN SETTLED. (2) ISRAELIS ARE ALSO TRYING TO INCLUDE IN PROTOCOL SECTION ON NORTHERN BUFFER ZONE PARAGRAPH FROM OUR MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO EFFECT THAT CHARACTER OF BUFFER ZONE WILL NOT CHANGE IF UNEF IS WITHDRAWN. EGYPTIANS ARGUE THIS IS SOMETHING ONLY POLITICAL LEVEL, NOT MILITARY WORKING GROUP, CAN DISCUSS.

3. ALTHOUGH THESE DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH MAY PROVIDE BASIS FOR IMPASSE LATER THIS WEEK, THEY MUST BE PARTLY OFFSET BY NOTING THAT GROUP CONTINUES STEADILY TO CHALK UP AGREEMENT ON NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ISSUES:

A. ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMON USE OF ROAD IN SOUTHERN AREA, WHICH WE ALL THOUGHT WERE LEADING CANDIDATE TO STALL NEGOTIATIONS, HAVE BEEN SETTLED QUITE PRAGMATICALLY WITH HARDLY NOTE OF EXASPERATION IN SHAFIR'S VOICE AND WITH MAGHDOUB ONLY NOTING WITH QUIET FRUSTRATION "ARROGANCE" OF WORDING OF ISRAELI DRAFT
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THAT EGYPT "WILL BE PERMITTED" TO USE ROAD FOR CIVILIAN TRAFFIC. MAINTENANCE PROBLEM MENTIONED BY GAMASY TO EILTS HAS BEEN SETTLED BY HAVING ISRAEL MAINTAIN PORTIONS OF COMMON ROAD EAST OF LINE M AND UNEF (USING EGYPTIANS) MAINTAIN PORTIONS IN BUFFER ZONES. EGYPTIANS DID NOT CONTEST ISRAEL'S UNRESTRICTED USE.

B. ALTHOUGH NUMBER OF POLICE STILL MAJOR ISSUE, CONTRARY TO GAMASY'S COMMENT TO EILTS SHAFIR ACCEPTED WITHOUT DISCUSSION MAGHDOUB'S STATEMENT THAT POLICE WOULD BE ARMED WITH PISTOLS, RIFLES, SUBMACHINE GUNS.

C. UNEF FUNCTIONS ARE AGREED AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OVER UNEF RIGHTS TO SEARCH THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AREA.

D. OIL EXPERTS FOR FIRST TIME SUNDAY BEGAN DISCUSSING MECHANICS OF TRANSFER. THESE TALKS COULD WELL PROVIDE VEHICLE FOR SETTling PHASING OF REDEPLOYMENT IN SOUTHERN AREA BECAUSE IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT SOME EGYPTIAN FOREMEN AND WORKERS AS WELL AS SENIOR TECHNICIANS WILL HAVE TO COME IN BEFORE FINAL DAY AND THIS SUGGESTS IDEA OF ESTABLISHING UNEF ENCLAVES AROUND OIL FIELDS.

4. I MIGHT NOTE THAT UN SEEMS TO HAVE GAINED AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES TO ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD HELP MEET EGYPTIAN SENSITIVITIES ABOUT HAVING TOO MANY FURTHER RESTRICTIONS WRITTEN INTO PROTOCOL. SOME MAY BE RECORDED IN SEPARATE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WHICH WOULD BE PUT INTO HANDS OF SIILASVUO IN HIS CAPACITY AS "AEGIS" OF JOINT COMMISSION.

5. AS DISCUSSION HAS TURNED TO NORTHERN AREA, MAIN ISSUES WILL BE:

A. STATUS OF CIVILIAN POPULATION IN BUFFER ZONE, MENTIONED ABOVE;

B. EARLY WARNING SYSTEM, WITH PARTICULAR PROBLEM OF EGYPTIAN ACCESS TO AREA OF ITS STATION BEFORE FEBRUARY 22;

C. TIMETABLE FOR REDEPLOYMENT MENTIONED ABOVE;

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D. SCHEDULING OF AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE;

WORKINGS OF JOINT COMMISSION, WHICH WILL AGAIN BE CONTENTIOUS BECAUSE EGYPTIANS WANT IT TO BE ACTIVE MAINLY DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT., WHILE ISRAELIS WANT TO MAKE A CONTINUING THING OF IT WITH POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS.

6. MAIN ISSUE HANGING OVER ENTIRE NEGOTIATION, OF COURSE, IS ONE LEFT IN SUSPENSE FROM FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SESSION -- PHASING OF OVERALL REDEPLOYMENT. AFTER SUNDAY SESSION, SIILASVUO SAID HE WOULD WAIT THROUGH NEXT SESSIONS TUESDAY, BUT IF THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT THEN, HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE TIME FOR "NUDGE OR PROD" FROM WASHINGTON. MEANWHILE, BRIGADIER SALEM FROM EGYPTIAN DELEGATION IS RETURNING TO CAIRO OVER YOM KIPPUR RECESS, AND HIS REVIEW THERE OF TALKS MAY PRODUCE CONSIDERED EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR WAYHINGTON INTERVENTION.

7. ON SUBJECT OF US WATCH STATIONS GAZIT SUNDAY NOTED THAT JERUSALEM HAD WANTED TWO STATIONS IN GIDDI AND ONE IN MITLA, BUT HE HAS HAD NO REACTION FROM JERUSALEM. I RECALLED FOR HIM LENGTHY ARGUMENT PERES HAD MADE ON DAY DURING SHUTTLE FOR

TWO STATIONS IN MITLA AND ONE IN GIDDI AND REPEATED THAT
POSITION I HAD GIVEN HIM APPROVED AT TOP LEVELS OF USG.
SO FAR HE HAS NOT COMMENTED ON FACT THAT UNEF WILL BE
ESCORTING CONVOYS TO GATES OF SURVEILLANCE STATIONS, BUT I
WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE YOU GET REACTION FROM PERES ON
THIS, THOUGH IT IS CLEARLY THE RIGHT STAND FOR US. SIILASVUO
IS PLEASED WITH THIS AND WAS ALREADY PLANNING TO HAVE UNEF
PLATOON IN GIDDI PASS ABOUT WHERE YOU SUGGESTED.

8. NO MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 15 BECAUSE OF YOM KIPPUR. I AM
CELEBRATING BY TAKING SIILASVUO AND HIS COLLEAGUES TO DINNER.

9. DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV. DALE
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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